

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS ATHENS 8813

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, US

SUBJECT: ATHENS' PRESS COVERAGE OF KISSINGER CYPRUS

BILATERALS IN NATO MINISTERIAL

REF: BRUSSELS 9722, 9765 AND 9727

BRUSSELS FOR THE SECRETARY

1. ATHENS' DAILIES OF DECEMBER 12 GAVE BROAD NEWS COVERAGE TO KISSINGER'S BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH ESENBEL AND BITSIOS WITH LIMITED LOCAL INTERPRETATIONS OF DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS RANGING FROM THOSE MILDLY OPTIMISTIC TO UNSUPPORTED GUESSES THAT BRUSSELS INITIATIVES UNSUCCESSFUL. SOME PAPERS LINKED CONTACTS IN BRUSSELS TO CONGRESS-IMPOSED CUTOFF IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. ALL REPORTS SEEM BASED ON WIRE SERVICES ACCOUNTS.

2. CONSERVATIVE KATHIMERINI HEADLINED "CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS BITSIOS AND KISSINGER--CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM ON RESULTS"; ACROPOLIS REPORTED "MARATHON TALKS WITHOUT RESULTS ON PROBLEM UNCLASSIFIED

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OF CYPRUS." PRO-ROYALIST ELLINIKON MELLON REPORTED "AMERICAN

INTEREST IS EXPRESSED IN BRUSSELS ABOUT PROBLEM OF CYPRUS;"
COSMOS RAN PHOTO ONLY OF KISSINGER MEETING WITH BITSIOS AND
MISLEADINGLY PLACED PHOTO WITH NEWS COLUMN THAT REPORTED AID CUTOFF
UNDER LEAD "AMERICAN CONGRESS DECISION: CUTOFF AID TO TURKEY FINAL;
TURKEY UNFAITHFUL FRIEND;" CENTER-LEFT TO VIMA MADE NEGATIVE
ASSESSMENT: "KISSINGER EFFORT AT MEDIATION HAS FAILED;"
COMMUNIST AVGHI HEADLINED REPORT: "IN BRUSSELS, KISSINGER
PRESSURE FOR GREECE TO ACCEPT TURKISH OCCUPATION OF CYPRUS,"
CREDITING ITS CORRESPONDENT YIANNIS ANDRIKOPOULOS FOR THIS
ON-THE-SCENE INTERPRETATION. COMMUNIST RIZOSPASTIS CARRIED
SMALL NEWS ITEM WITHOUT COMMENT UNDER NEUTRAL HEADLINE,
"ACTIVITIES AT NATO ON PROBLEM OF CYPRUS."

3. NO SEPARATE EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS SO FAR APPEARED.
STEARNS

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